

Message Text

SECRET

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56

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5709

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 5870

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, SA, US

SUBJECT: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE

REF JIDDA 5822, STATE 212003

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED ON AUGUST 28 COMMUNICATION FROM
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON JORDAN'S AIR DEFENSE.
EMBASSY TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF
SAUDI ARABIA PRESENTS ITS BEST WISHES TO THE ESTEEMED EMBASSY
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JIDDA, AND
WITH REFERENCE TO (A) THE UNDERSTANDING THAT TOOK PLACE
BETWEEN HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE FOREIGN MINISTER,
AND H.E. AMBASSADOR WILLIAM PORTER ON THE SUBJECT
OF FINANCING THE JORDANIAN AIR DEFENSE PROGRAM IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$540 MILLION, AND (B) THE SUGGESTION OF
THE KINGDOM THAT THIS SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON THE
BASIS OF A SCHEDULE OF GUARANTEED PAYMENT (WITH)
\$140 MILLION (TO BE PAID) IN THE FIRST YEAR AND
\$100 MILLION YEARLY FOR THE SUCCEEDING FOUR YEARS,
(ALL OF THIS) WITHOUT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM
OF SAUDI ARABIA HAVING TO PAY ANY INTEREST ON THESE
SUMS, AND (C) WITH REFERENCE TO WHAT HIS EXCELLENCY
THE AMBASSADOR MENTIONED ABOUT THE AGREEMENT OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THIS

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SUGGESTION ON THE BASIS THAT THE AMERICAN DEPARTMENT

OF DEFENSE WOULD UNDERTAKE TO UNIFY THE ACCOUNT OF THE KINGDOM FOR MILITARY PURCHASES INTO A SINGLE ACCOUNT FROM WHICH EXPENDITURES SHALL BE MADE FOR ALL PURCHASES UNDER THE ARMS AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES-- INCLUDING THE AGREEMENT TO BUY THE JORDANIAN AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM UNDERTAKES (A) TO COVER THE DEFICIT IN THE UNITED ACCOUNT FOR ALL PAYMENTS REQUESTED AS THEY COME DUE SHOULD THERE BE A SHORTFALL IN THE UNITED ACCOUNT; AND AFTER CLARIFICATION BY THE APPROPRIATE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES OF THE RESULT OF THE STUDY OF THE UNITED ACCOUNT AND THE SUMS TO BE REQUESTED, (B) AFFIRMS THAT ALL OF THE PAYMENTS SHALL BE PAID WHEN DUE WITHOUT THERE OCCURRING ANY DEFICIT IN THE UNITED ACCOUNT.

THE MINISTRY HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM THE ESTEEMED EMBASSY OF THE AGREEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA TO THE CONCEPT OF THE UNITED ACCOUNT IN THE MANNER PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRIENDLY UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS DEEP ESTEEM.

USEAL
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA END QUOTE

2. ORIGINAL OF MINISTRY'S LETTER BEING POUCHED TO
NEA/ARP, ATTN: MR. CECIL.

3. AMBASSADOR WILL NOW REQUEST SAUDIS TO ACT PROMPTLY
WITH REGARD TO INITIAL PAYMENT.
PORTER

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NNN

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